Met Office

Annual 2014

The following represents an assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during 2014 and how it compares with the 1981 to 2010 average.

All months except August were warmer than average, and this was the warmest year on record for the UK. It was also wetter than average for many locations, particularly south-east England and eastern Scotland. The most extreme weather events of the year were the winter storms of January and February, which brought damaging winds, with inland and coastal flooding. In comparison, the rest of the year was relatively quiet. Summer 2014 brought some fine weather - particularly in June and July. There were no major heat-waves but several instances of torrential summer downpours causing localised flash-flooding, for example across parts of England on 19 to 20 July. On 10th August ex-hurricane Bertha brought strong winds, heavy rain and flooding to north-east Scotland and a major winter storm affected the north of the UK in early December.

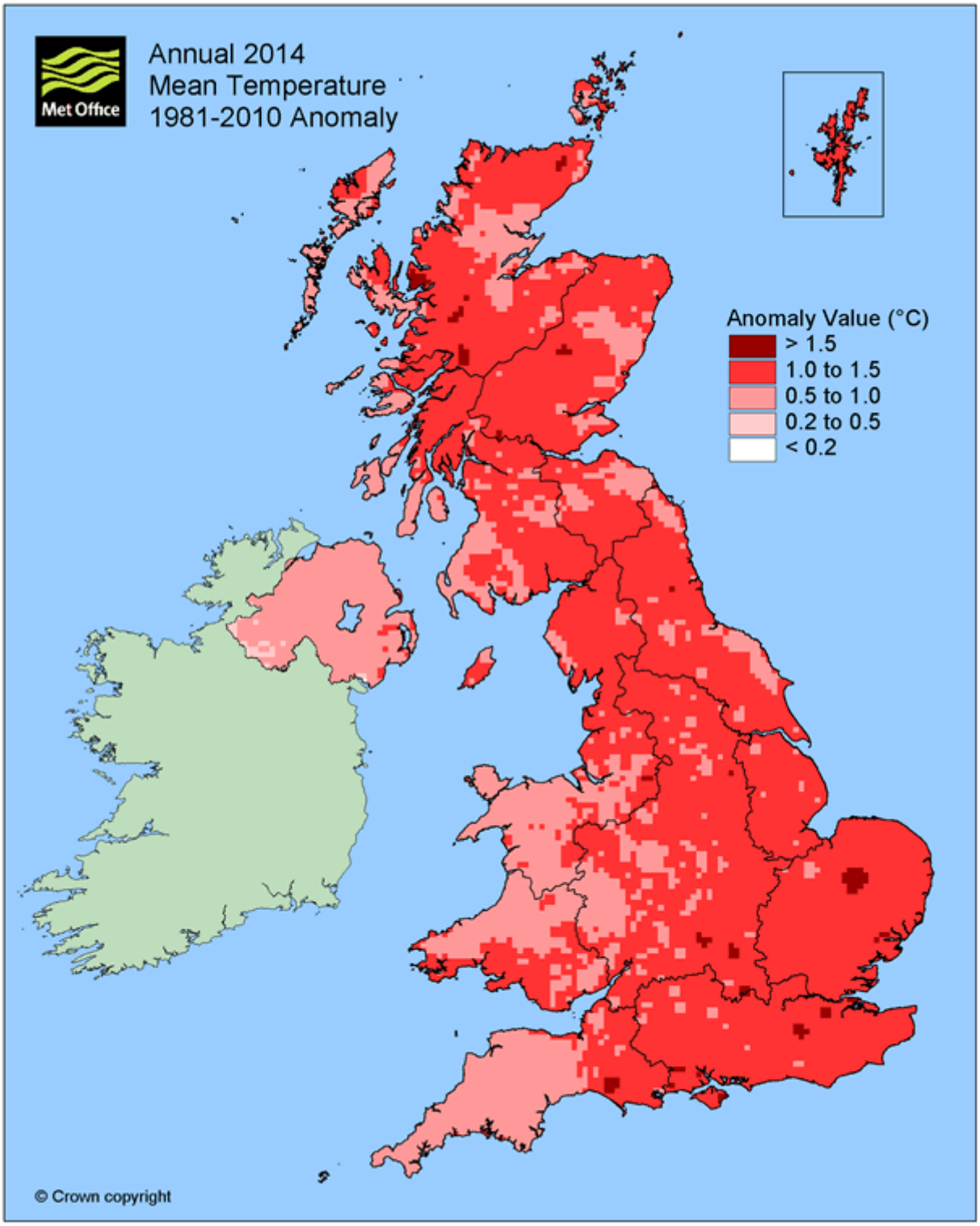
The UK mean temperature for 2014 was 9.9 °C, 1.1 °C above the 1981-2010 long-term average and the warmest year in the UK series, ahead of 2006 (9.7 °C). This means that the eight warmest years in this series have all occurred since 2002. It was the warmest year for all countries and climate districts except Northern Ireland where it was third warmest behind 2007 and 2006. It was also marginally the warmest year on record in the CET series from 1659, just ahead of 2006. While all months except August were warmer than average, none were record-breaking. The number of air frosts for the UK was lowest in a series from 1961.

The UK rainfall total for 2014 was 1300 mm, 113% of the 1981-2010 average and the fourth wettest year in the UK series from 1910, behind 2012, 2000 and 1954. This means that five of the six wettest years in this series have occurred since 2000. No individual regions had their wettest year on record but for Scotland 2014 was the third-wettest year. A large contribution to the high annual rainfall total came from very wet weather in January and February. May, October and November were also wetter than average and August was especially wet across Northern Scotland. However, most other months were drier than average in most areas, and September was the driest in the series from 1910 for the UK.

2014 was a sunnier than average year for most areas, but not exceptionally so. Sunshine amounts varied regionally but in general March, July and December were notably sunny months whereas May and October were rather dull.

UK statistical summary

UK statistical summary		
Mean temperature	**Rainfall**	**Sunshine**
The mean value is 9.9 °C, which is 1.1 °C above the 1981-2010 average.	The total is 1300 mm, which is 113% of the 1981-2010 average.	The total is 1427 hours, which is 104% of the 1981-2010 average.


Met Office
Annual 2014
Mean Temperature
1981-2010 Anomaly
Anomaly Value (°C)
> 1.5
1.0 to 1.5
0.5 to 1.0
0.2 to 0.5
< 0.2
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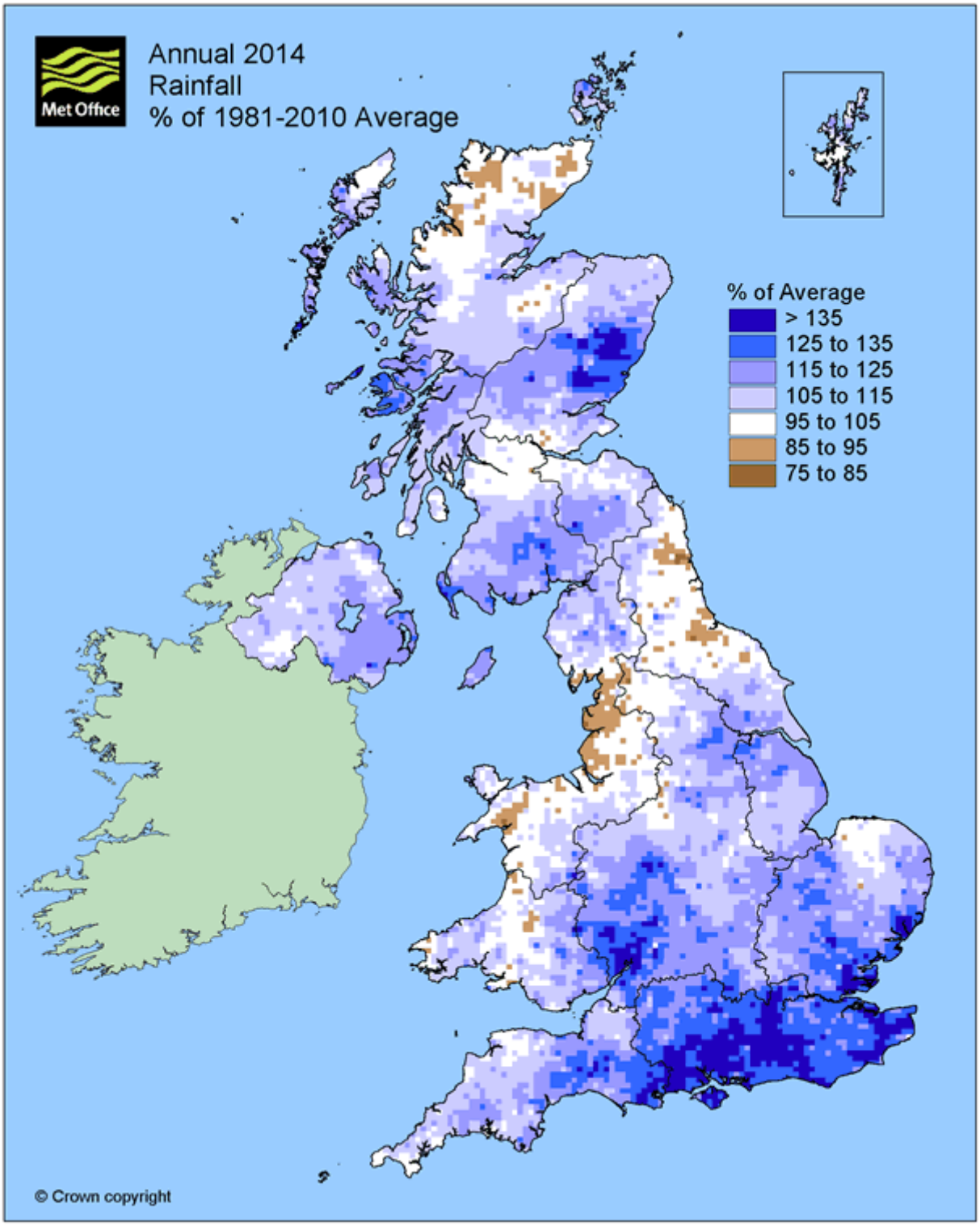
Met Office
Annual 2014
Rainfall
% of 1981-2010 Average
% of Average
> 135
125 to 135
115 to 125
105 to 115
95 to 105
85 to 95
75 to 85
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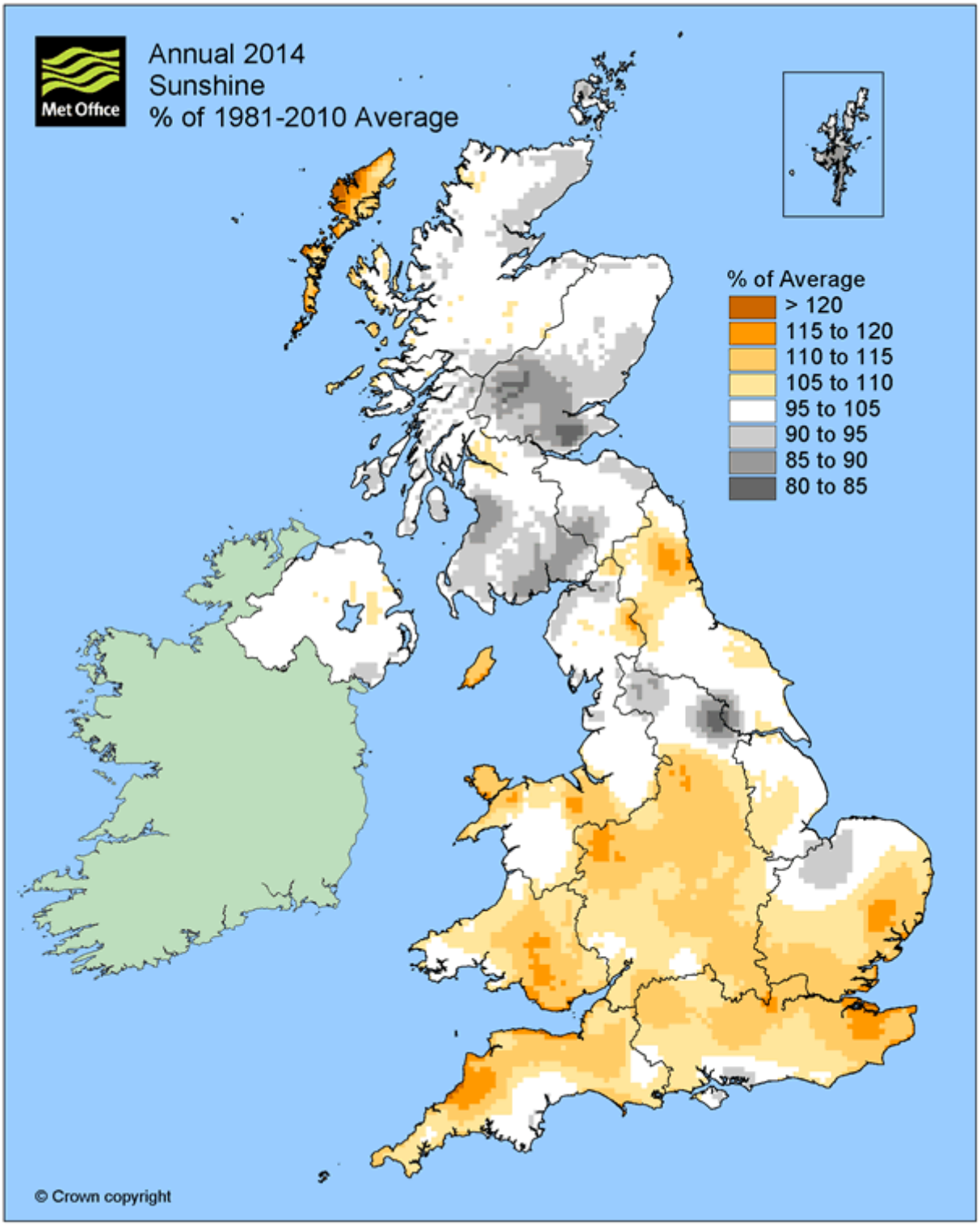

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